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## KRISTA KARIN BROWN

415 Bellevue Ave. #24 • Oakland, CA 94610 • (510) 832-2335 • krista70@earthlink.net

February 14, 2005

Mr. Scott Haggerty  
ABAG President/Joint Policy Committee  
Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter  
101 Eighth Street, P.O. Box 2050  
Oakland, CA 94607-4756

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S  
OFFICE

Dear Mr. Haggerty:

I am writing to support the MTC and Joint Policy Committee's steps toward connecting land use to transit, but I am concerned the proposed policy will not be effective. I urge you to strengthen the policy by adopting the Greenbelt-Alliance-endorsed Livable Communities Platform, which will help ensure good land use around transit stations.

With a Regional Transit-Oriented Development Policy, MTC has the opportunity to help create livable communities that support transit investment. Planning for housing, jobs and shops near transit supports our transit investments-and also creates great places to live, work and play. Guiding development towards transit routes in developed areas keeps cities from sprawling onto open spaces.

I know that MTC is considering a policy that calls for a certain amount of housing and jobs along transit corridors as a measure for growth. While I applaud the focus on housing, I am concerned that the proposed policy leaves too much room for the possibility of poorly planned station areas. Setting a combined threshold for housing and jobs would allow cities to plan for offices and shops only, without a balance of housing.

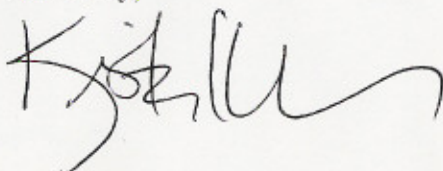
I urge you to adopt the following Livable Communities Platform as part of a Regional Transit Oriented Development Policy. Before MTC funds transit expansion projects, cities should have to:

- Plan for compact development so that at least half the new housing built in the Bay Area is located in the half-mile radius station areas.
- Promote affordable housing in station areas.
- Prohibit big-box developments in station areas.
- Create plans to minimize the space dedicated to parking in station areas.
- Develop bicycle and pedestrian plans for safe routes to and within station areas.

I know that it is critical that MTC have the input and support of the public and local community groups on this issue. I am eager to support a policy linking transportation funds to land use, but in its current state, this policy may be ineffective and may backfire in a number of cities.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,





## KRISTA KARIN BROWN

415 Bellevue Ave. #24 • Oakland, CA 94610 • (510) 832-2335 • krista70@earthlink.net

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February 14, 2005

Ms. Jane Brunner  
Oakland City Council/Joint Policy Committee  
Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter  
101 Eighth Street, P.O. Box 2050  
Oakland, CA 94607-4756

Dear Ms. Brunner:

I am writing to support the MTC and Joint Policy Committee's steps toward connecting land use to transit, but I am concerned the proposed policy will not be effective. I urge you to strengthen the policy by adopting the Greenbelt-Alliance-endorsed Livable Communities Platform, which will help ensure good land use around transit stations.

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